

# The Hook



Lower Umpqua Flycasters  
Member, Federation of Fly Fishers

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## Meeting times

- General Club meetings held at Reedsport High School at 7:00 p.m. the 3rd Wednesday of each month. (except when they're not)
- Executive Board Meetings will be held on demand. They can be requested by any club member at a regular meeting to be held on a date printed in the next published newsletter (The Hook).

### The lucky winners of the December Meeting :

*Tom Timothy won the rod and Pat Lyons and Robert O'Bryan won the member's drawing!*

## Next Meeting

Wednesday, January 20,  
2010  
Reedsport Elementary  
School , 7:00 p.m.

## RAMBLINGS



"O, sir, doubt not that Angling is an art; is it not an art to deceive a trout with an artificial fly?"  
~ Isaak Walton~

Well, here we are with a bright shiney new year staring us in the eyes. Time to make all those useless promises to yourself that you have no intention to keep. I made a resolution this year to take at least one really cool fishing trip, I am going to Alaska for personal reasons in May so maybe I will just extend it a bit and take a couple of extra weeks. Might be too early for trout, but the big Kings should be coming into Cook Inlet. Maybe stop at the Kispiox River, it has been at least 35 years since I was there last.

All had a great time at the Christmas Dinner, the food was very good and plenty of it. Nice setting with the dining room all to ourselves. Everybody had positive remarks and enjoyed the evening. Hope to see some new faces at the festivities next year.

The winner of the drawing for a fly rod had a little trouble making up his mind which one he wanted until his wife told him which one he wanted. No problem. Strange how that works, happens to me all the time. Keeps life simple not having to make decisions for yourself.

Expo is coming very soon, all seems in order, but if anybody has some time, I am sure we could use the help. One idea that was floated is a rod building demonstration, any rod makers that could spend a couple of hours showing how it is done would be appreciated. Don't forget, this year Expo will be at the Elementary School.

Another quote I like comes to mind:

May your trail always lead

Where the grass is green, the waters' sweet

And the goin's easy on your horses feet.

Until the next meeting, TIGHT LINES to all,

Tommy Carlson

**ATTENTION FLY TYERS AND SUCCESSFUL FLY FISHERMEN!**

Some time ago I was asked for suggestions on helping with the problem of new members dropping out of the club after a couple meetings. I'm sure this was due, at least in part, to my having dropped under similar circumstances. While my decision was due more to medical issues at the time than dissatisfaction with the club or its activities, the request for suggestions did make me think about what other new members saw and/or experienced when first attending club meetings that might account for the lack of interest in further participation. It could be reasonably argued that participation in a few of the outings would provide adequate incentive for anyone who enjoys fly fishing. Certainly it would help new members become more personally acquainted with long standing club members. Perhaps new members don't participate because they are new to fly fishing or new to the area and don't really know what works here. I am proposing to provide new members with a list of flies suitable for our particular local waters and accompany that with suggestions for how to fish them. While obviously not a complete solution, it just might help provide the confidence some might require to feel more comfortable attending the first few outings.

Accordingly, I am asking each club member to email me (at clubflies@live.com) a list of their favorite patterns. I'm also asking that you include the water it was successfully fished on and the times of year you have found it to be most effective. If it is a common pattern and can be found in one of the on-line archives, I will look it up, copy a photo and save the accumulated flies with an appropriate backup burned to disk. If it is a pattern developed by a tyer, appropriate tying instructions should be included as well as a photo. If a digital camera isn't available to the tyer, the fly could be brought to a meeting to be photographed. When sufficient flies have been accumulated, I'll present the list so it can be made available to all members. The list can be easily updated as new flies are made available. This can also be incorporated into the web page if the membership so chooses. Initially, don't worry about what flies someone else may have already sent in. I'll take care of the duplicates.

Thank you, in advance, for your cooperation and help with this project. I believe new members will also thank you. Wayne

**Steelhead Funk by Tom Timothy**

Just over a week into January's steelhead season, I seemed to be sliding into a deep funk. I couldn't put my finger on what was wrong. I found myself tying a couple of egg patterns to get me through the next day's fishing and thinking about what could be the cause. The old excitement wasn't happening for me this year. It was time for me to figure out why so that I could put this steelhead funk in my rear view mirror.

Okay, the first four days that I went fishing on the North Fork in December didn't produce a single bite. A lack of fish in December really wasn't a surprise though, since North Fork fish usually make their first appearance in January. The reason I'd fished the North Fork, instead of the West Fork of the Millicoma with Al, was because I don't drive in the dark anymore. Frankly, it wasn't that I couldn't fish the West Fork that started this funk, it was missing the start of a new steelhead season with Al.

With the arrival of January, the steelhead finally came up the North Fork. While fishing with Dave, I failed to land a fish but Dave managed to bring a steelhead to hand. Even though the steelhead were doing their part, the funk was still hanging over my head.

The park was seeing a lot of fishing pressure. Because of not being able to drive in the dark, my favorite hole had been occupied daily upon my arrival. In all fairness, I have to say that most of the other fisherman shared the hole with me. Somehow though, I knew this funk ran deeper than the driving thing.

As I finished my second egg pattern my eyes centered in on one of the pictures on my "fishing partners wall of fame. It was John holding a big old native North Fork steelhead. John and I had been on a tear for a week. It was one of those runs that just wouldn't quit. I asked Patti if I could take the camera to get some steelhead pictures. Since I'd dropped three cameras in the water while getting fishing pictures previously, she got me a disposable one. You would have thought having a camera along would put the fish off the bite, but not that day! The trick was to keep doubles down to a minimum so one of us was free to take the picture. Turned out not to be a problem. We ran out of film before we ran out of steelhead! The only time I fished with John was for steelhead on the North Fork at the park. It was always by chance that we met over the years. It seemed like whenever I fell into a steelhead slump the solution was to go to the Park and run into John. The steelhead would appear for the two of us, as if by magic, and we'd get our mojo back. John was always at the park because he had black lung from working the mines. I talked to John's son recently at the park and was told that John spent Christmas week in the hospital and not to expect him to make it to the park this year. I think the mystery is solved.

Now that I've put my finger on this "Steelhead Funk", I think I'm going to be able to work through it. The only thing I can do about no night driving is to learn to accept my limitations. However, I'm not willing to accept a steelhead season without seeing John. I'll just have to stop by his house on one of his good days and get my mojo back. As for not starting the steelhead season with Al... maybe we can end the season together instead. On say the North Fork, East Fork or South Fork of the Coquille, anything but the West Fork of the Millicoma!

**2010 OUTING SCHEDULE**

Coming soon!		
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VISIT OUR WEB SITE AT [lufc.us](http://lufc.us) for all the news that's fit to print and more!

Remember to bring your empty printer ink cartridges to the meetings to be used for Staples Rewards Credit toward the printing of the HOOK!

**FOR SALE!**

John Soper has a 7wt WF silk fly line \$85 (orig. \$200) 541-756-4103.

Ken Joubert has a new Cabela's Fishing Rod Holder for an inflatable craft. \$30 (541-266-0584).

CLUB OFFICERS	
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<b>Web master</b>	Terri Grimm
<a href="mailto:tgrimm@sonatainc.com">tgrimm@sonatainc.com</a>	

**Membership News**

Any member of the club who writes an article for the newsletter of 500 words or more, will receive 6 free raffle tickets at the next meeting that they attend after the article is published. The article can be about anything that would interest Fly Fishers, but needs to be original (not copied from another source). Send your article to Alex at [lufchook@gmail.com](mailto:lufchook@gmail.com) for publication.

***MEMBERSHIP DUES 2010***

*Annual Dues are \$20.00 within 50 Miles of Reedsport; \$10.00 if more than 50 miles*

***PLEASE COMPLETE THE FOLLOWING INFO & RETURN ASAP—We need to update our roster so please send info with your dues***

NAME(S) \_\_\_\_\_ H-PHONE \_\_\_\_\_ W-PHONE \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_ CITY \_\_\_\_\_ ST \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP \_\_\_\_\_

EMAIL ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_

I WOULD LIKE TO RECEIVE THE HOOK BY: EMAIL  or Regular mail  (please check one)

## Our Sponsors



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*Please call me either at the store or my cell: 253-334-3599  
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**HOME WATERS**  
FLY FISHING

444 W. 3rd Ave. • Eugene, OR 97401

**Lower Umpqua Flycasters**  
P. O. Box 521  
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